



Minutes

Meeting of December 6-7, 2005

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Howard Welinsky, Chair
Olivia K. Singh, Vice Chair
Alan S. Arkatov
Joseph P. Bishop
Irwin S. Field
Lance T. Izumi
Glee Johnson
Hugo Morales
John P. Perez
Evonne Seron Schulze
Odessa P. Johnson, *Alternate*
Craig R. Smith, *Alternate*

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

George G. Gowgani
Frederick Ruiz
Faye Washington

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chair Welinsky called the December 6, 2005, meeting of the California Postsecondary Education Commission to order at 9:40 a.m. in the Commission Conference Room at 770 L Street, Suite 1160, Sacramento, California.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Executive Secretary Anna Gomez called the roll for the meeting. A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the September 6-7, 2005, meeting were unanimously approved.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Welinsky recognized and welcomed the new student representative from the University of California, Joseph Bishop. He then expressed his appreciation of the Commissioners' support over the last two years of his chairmanship, noting the legislative efforts to terminate or diminish the agency. Chair Welinsky went on to commend CPEC staff for their productivity. He added that he is looking forward to working closely with the segments the coming year while retaining the independent nature and function of the Commission.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE, ALAN S. ARKATOV, CHAIR

Commissioner Arkatov reported on the Nominating Committee's recommended slate of officers for 2006. The following officers were nominated and elected:

Howard Welinsky, *Commission Chair*
Olivia K. Singh, *Commission Vice Chair*

Nominating Committee:

Hugo Morales, *Chair*
Lance T. Izumi, *Member*
Faye Washington, *Member*

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Committee on Education Code Section 66905:

Lance T. Izumi, *Chair*

PROPOSED 2006 COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Chair Welinsky presented, and the Commission approved, the following 2006 meeting dates:

March 28-29	Sacramento
June 27-28	Sacramento
September 26-27	Sacramento
December 12-13	Sacramento

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Introductions: Director Murray J. Haberman introduced Sherri Orland, a new employee who has been hired to direct the governmental relations efforts of the Commission and Linda Laxton, the Commission's new personnel officer. He also informed the Commissioners that staff member Jessika Nobles Jones will be telecommuting from Santa Barbara, but will spend one day a month in the Sacramento office and be available for Commission meetings. He continued his report by indicating that other staff members would be contributing on various issues.

Survey of Readers: Director Haberman reported on a recent survey sent to recipients regarding CPEC documents that asked their opinions on the quality and relevance of Commission publications. From the 71 respondents, the general feeling was that the Commission's publications are well received and provide a useful service in disseminating data and information on higher education. In addition, many of the comments indicated that the Commission could improve its reporting by focusing more on proposing solutions to problems. Director Haberman pointed out that, while specific suggestions were made for improvement, the feedback was very positive.

Audio Streaming of Commission Meetings: Director Haberman commented on the challenges of audio streaming Commission meetings. His goal was to have the equipment available and working to support an interactive environment with the public; however, circumstances have prevented acquisition of the necessary computer hardware. The equipment should be in place before the March 2006 Commission meeting.

Community College Bond Initiatives: Staff member Kevin Woolfork presented the Commissioners with a summary of community college bond initiatives that appeared on the November 2005 Special Election Ballot. Three of the four bond efforts successfully passed. Total bond funding for these three was \$745.7 million. The three districts passing bonds were San Francisco CCD, San Mateo CCD, and Siskiyou CCD.

Presentation by Marilyn McGrath, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC): Director Haberman introduced Ms. McGrath and welcomed her to discuss credentialing issues and her role as the CPEC representative on the CTC.

Ms. McGrath discussed the challenges faced in the program approval process and noted concern that over 100 subject matter programs were in the "pipeline" waiting to be approved. She noted the reluctance on the part of many of the new Commissioners to approve new programs without additional information. A discussion took place about the alignment of K-12 standards with curriculum, the difficulty of reconciling different ideas of what to teach and how to teach to standards, and how these challenges affect the process of evaluating and approving teacher preparation programs.

She then reported on the need for more teachers with subject matter credentials and noted that the multiple subject teacher supply in the state seemed to be sufficient. She added that the low retention rate of teachers is one of the factors contributing to the problem.

Director Haberman thanked Ms. McGrath for her efforts on behalf of CPEC.

Executive Compensation and Faculty Salary Reports: Director Haberman reported that the Commission would not conduct its annual report on the compensation received by executives employed by CSU and UC this year due to the inability to obtain information from the segments on the value of perquisites and other kinds of compensation. It was decided to make every effort to obtain complete compensation information for both executives and faculty, and to issue the reports together. The Commission expressed support for legislation that would give CPEC the necessary authority and resources to undertake a comprehensive review of the compensation policies and methodologies for both faculty and executives.

Accountability Advisory Committee Update: Assistant Director Marc Irish reported on the work of the CPEC Accountability Advisory Committee and provided a brief history of how it is evolving. He stated that there is general agreement among all parties that the Commission's accountability system should provide useful information to policy makers, should be statewide in its focus, and should provide context and analysis for discreet and easily understood measures. Mr. Irish added that the CPEC website should be supportive of the accountability system by providing up-to-date information to policy makers that substantiate and validate any findings and recommendations in the CPEC accountability report.

Presentation for the Assembly Select Committee on Growth and Infrastructure: Staff members Stacy Wilson and Kevin Woolfork reported on their testimony at the Assembly Select Committee on Growth and Infrastructure hearing on October 19, 2005. CPEC was invited to comment on the facilities needs of higher education and estimates of enrollment projections. Dr. Wilson and Mr. Woolfork presented information on the evolution of space standards, problems with outdated space planning policies, and CPEC's space planning recommendations.

State Capital Outlay Program Evaluations (SCOPE) Visits: Staff member Kevin Woolfork reported on his October campus visits to UC San Diego and UC Irvine. He noted that the SCOPE program, sponsored by the University of California, provides opportunities for legislative staff and other state officials to visit selected campus programs and interact with campus administrators, faculty, and other personnel. The intent of the program is to give officials a better understanding of campus activities, initiatives, and challenges. Mr. Woolfork and other visitors had the opportunity of learning first hand about issues such as enrollment planning difficulties, recruiting and retention of faculty, and potential proposals for new law school and nursing programs. The visitors also had the opportunity to tour the Preuss School, a model charter school operated by UC San Diego that serves low-income students. Mr. Woolfork remarked that the Preuss School has a very high performance rating, with 100% of its graduates meeting UC eligibility requirements.

Commission Website: Director Haberman concluded his report by encouraging the Commissioners to visit the CPEC website and reminding them that the website is constantly being updated and improved.

REPORT OF THE STATUTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Robert Oakes reported on two issues discussed at the Statutory Advisory Committee meeting held on November 30, 2005. The first issue was the California High School Exit Exam and

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the need for clarification of the law with regard to financial aid eligibility for students who have not passed the exam. He stated that the public segments were discussing how to accommodate those who did not pass but were otherwise entitled to financial aid for remedial education and/or training at the community colleges. He reported that the California Student Aid Commission is exploring how best to deal with these students.

In addition, the Statutory Advisory Committee members had expressed concern that they had not seen the December agenda item on AB 1570 data. Mr. Oakes related that the Advisory Committee requested that it be made clear that the AB 1570 demonstration was for illustrative purposes only and no conclusions should be drawn from it.

IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY (ITQ) STATE GRANTS PROGRAM UPDATE, DECEMBER 2005

Staff member Karen Humphrey reported on the status of the current grant competition for the federally funded Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) State Grants Program. Ms. Humphrey described the characteristics of the eight successful grant proposals and the distinctions that set them apart from traditional professional development programs. Dr. Howard Levine, head of the ITQ Assessment and Dissemination Project for the grants, continued the presentation by discussing the unique aspects of this particular round of grant proposals, those being:

1. “Targeting” all grantees on a single, recognized educational need, in this case it was academic literacy;
2. “Tying” all grantees to ongoing initiatives and each other; and
3. “Testing” a scientifically based research focus that attempts to link changes in student achievement to specific professional development.

Dr. Levine noted that these three aspects represent a departure from CPEC’s previous grant programs by focusing on the direct link to student achievement. Ms. Humphrey concluded the presentation by thanking the Commissioners for their support of the program.

RECESS

Chair Welinsky adjourned the meeting for lunch recess.

RECONVENE

Chair Welinsky reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

REVIEW OF A PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE WOODLAND EDUCATIONAL CENTER TO A FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Staff member Dr. Stacy Wilson introduced a proposal to convert the Woodland Educational Center in the Yuba Community College District to a full-service community college. He noted the conversion would enable an increasing number of students from Yolo County and surrounding areas to complete all of their required coursework locally rather than commuting to Yuba College.

Dr. Wilson explained that although the proposal was nearly complete when submitted, additional information and analyses were needed in the areas of historic district-wide enrollments, socioeconomic status, academic planning, support budget, and public transportation and parking. The Commission also requested a feasibility analysis of a service option submitted by Colusa County

officials for expanding the District's educational and outreach services in that county. The District complied with these requests prior to the Commission meeting.

Dr. Wilson noted that numerous individuals residing in rural communities of the Yuba service area have expressed concern about the level and quality of educational services they are currently receiving from the District. Colusa County is approximately 50% Hispanic and has a high unemployment rate, so educational equity is an important consideration. Colusa County representatives reported that the District closed its outreach center in 2003. They expressed concern that the level of services provided to Colusa County residents is not consistent with the more than \$2.9 million in local property tax revenue that the county provides annually to the District.

Chair Welinsky called on Dr. Nicki Harrington, President of Yuba College. Dr. Harrington explained that the District was forced to close the Colusa and other outreach centers because of several consecutive years of declining state support to the District, including a mid-year cut in funding. She stressed that the District was providing a comparable level of service to Colusa residents by delivering instruction in *One Stop Centers* and in public high schools located in Colusa County, as well as delivering instruction over the Internet. Dr. Harrington emphasized that the conversion of the Woodland Center to a full-service community college would ultimately enhance the ability of the district to provide quality instruction to Colusa County.

Kay Spurgeon, Colusa County Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Commission and summarized the concerns of Colusa County residents, re-emphasizing that the District had maintained a highly visible and functional educational outreach center from the mid 1970s until 2003. Ms. Spurgeon stressed that many residents did not have access to cable or the Internet, so on-line instruction was of limited value to local residents. She concluded by stating that in the absence of a visible and functional educational outreach center in the area, it was becoming increasingly difficult to attract new businesses and industries that require workers who have educational training beyond high school.

Robert Turnage, Vice Chancellor for the California Community College Chancellor's Office, spoke in support of the proposal. He informed the Commission that the Board of Governors voted in favor of the proposal at its November meeting. He urged the Commission to support the proposal.

Additional public testimony was presented by Virginia Fraiss, Williams City Council Member; Dave Scroggins, President of the Colusa County Board of Education; Brenda Miller, Member of the Colusa County Board of Education; Yuba Community College District Governing Board members; Art Pimentel, Woodland City Councilmember; Dr. Diane Woodruff, President, Community College League of California; and Alma Villaseñor, a Colusa County student.

After engaging in a broad discussion about the special needs of rural areas, Commissioners focused on the best way to proceed and move forward on the proposal at hand. Given the significant differences that exist about the perceived level of educational services provided to Colusa County by the Yuba Community College District, Dr. Wilson recommended that Executive Director Haberman be given the authority to concur with the recommendation to grant the Woodland Center community college status as soon as a general agreement of understanding could be reached between the District and Colusa County. However, a number of Commissioners expressed concern that a postponement in converting the Woodland Center to a full-service community college might result in the campus having to incur higher building costs.

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Chair Welinsky recommended that the issue of campus conversion be viewed separately from the issue of educational access to rural communities. He requested two motions: (1) that the Commission concur with the recommendation to transition the Woodland Educational Center to a comprehensive community college; and (2) that Executive Director Haberman work with the District and Colusa County in developing a general *Memorandum of Understanding* within 30 days. Both motions passed with Commissioner Izumi abstaining.

PRESENTATION BY LANCE T. IZUMI AND XIAOCHIN CLAIRE YAN

Commissioner Lance Izumi and Xiaochin Claire Yan presented findings from their book *Free to Learn: Lessons from Model Charter Schools*. The authors examined in depth successful charter school models. They found that successful schools emphasized on high student achievement, academic standards, assessment, and management accountability. They also examined under-achieving charter schools.

Commissioner Izumi stressed the point that the book was a guide for charter school personnel who can study the success stories and follow their examples. He noted that while it is important to understand why some charter schools do so well, it is equally important to examine why others fail.

Commissioner Izumi concluded his remarks by stating that charter schools are capable of great things; however in California and in the nation, too few school principals think out of the box. He continued that the main reason charter schools are successful is that they are free from micromanaging districts and meddling politicians. Principals are free to be leaders, teachers are free to practice as professionals, and students are free to learn.

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN UNIVERSITY ELIGIBILITY

Staff member Dr. Adrian Griffin presented a fact sheet on university eligibility by region. He stated that if further analyses show that regional location has a real effect on eligibility after correcting for school performance and other local factors, cultural and geographical factors may be significant obstacles to university attendance in some regions of California. He also noted that analyses might show that eligibility is the outcome of school performance and local factors, rather than a school's regional location. He suggested that by understanding the underlying causes of differences and establishing correlations between different factors and university eligibility rates, policy makers can implement specific policies to address inequities.

Dr. Griffin noted that subsequent analyses to these data will examine other factors such as income, socio-economic status and the size of the urban area of the school to see if there is a tendency for eligibility to be lower in the smaller, more remote communities.

ANALYSIS OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

Staff member Dr. Adrian Griffin presented a progress report on the Commission's data system and the data available pursuant to AB 1570. Data collected from the public systems of higher education will enable the Commission to conduct analyses of issues such as the time taken for students to complete their degrees, the success rate of students who transfer from community colleges to the four-year systems, and the success and persistence of students as they progress through the systems. He outlined the procedures used by Commission staff to ensure the confidentiality of the data.

Dr. Griffin noted that the degree data available for use by Commission research staff consists of nearly two million records. He added that since most of the data originates from records with actual social security numbers, it would be possible to track students from system to system. He said that degree records and enrollment records are needed to conduct studies on issues such as the progress and persistence of students.

Dr. Griffin reported on his analysis of “reverse transfer”, meaning the number of university graduates who enroll at a community college in order to obtain additional skills. He stated that there are concerns that many graduates may not be getting the skills they need during their university career, and may be returning to community colleges in order to acquire marketable job skills. However, he said the data showed that this is not a major trend.

Dr. Griffin concluded his presentation by announcing enrollment data that will enable research staff to more comprehensively analyze persistence and transfer rates in the future, had been processed and ready to use.

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INDEX (API) AS A PREDICTOR OF UNIVERSITY ELIGIBILITY

Staff member Jessika Nobles Jones reported on a prospectus to examine the effect of school API on eligibility, and whether different student populations react in different ways to an increase in school API. Ms. Jones outlined specific research questions that could be answered using existing eligibility data. Examples of such questions include: (a) What happens to eligibility rates as a school API increases; (b) Do eligibility rates increase at a steady rate when comparing populations at “low performing” schools with those at “medium” and “high” performing schools; and (c) What is the correlation between median household income and API scores.

Ms. Jones reported that staff intends to complete a study that will examine more closely the relationship among student groups, API scores, and university eligibility. She noted that as the predictors of student eligibility are identified, staff can identify policy recommendations that will help high school students, particularly those from underrepresented communities, achieve university eligibility.

RECESS

The meeting was recessed at 5:40 p.m. Chair Welinsky reported that the meeting would reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on the following day, December 7, 2005, in the Conference Room of the Commission’s Office at 770 L Street, Suite 1160, Sacramento, California.

RECONVENE

Chair Welinsky called the December 7, 2005, meeting of the California Postsecondary Education Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Conference Room at 770 L Street, Suite 1160, Sacramento, California. Chair Welinsky introduced Craig Smith, Alternate Commissioner from Long Beach, representing the California State University Board of Trustees.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Executive Secretary Anna Gomez called the roll for the December 7, 2005, meeting. A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

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GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS UPDATE

Staff member Greg Gollihur provided a draft Commission resolution on faculty and executive compensation in higher education. He explained that the recommendation was intended to provide direction to staff for obtaining the authority and resources necessary to conduct a comprehensive review of compensation practices. Following discussion, the Commission unanimously approved the following resolution:

In recognition of the inability of the current CPEC faculty and executive compensation reports to accurately reflect total compensation at California's public segments of higher education and at the recommendation of the Commission's Executive Director, the Commission supports all efforts to obtain the necessary authority and resources to undertake a comprehensive review of compensation policies within California higher education. The purpose of the review is to provide transparency and accountability in the compensation process.

The review must take into account the competitive market place for recruitment and retention of outstanding faculty and administrators. The review shall be undertaken with the consultation and cooperation of an appropriate advisory committee that should include, but not be limited to, representatives of the public segments.

Mr. Gollihur continued his report on the Commission's priority legislation:

AB 196 (Liu) – Higher Education Accountability – Mr. Gollihur referred to the presentation by Marc Irish on the Commission's efforts to establish an accountability framework. He indicated that AB 196 might not move from the fiscal committee until later in the 2006 session and that the Commission would modify its own accountability framework should legislation be passed and signed.

AB 358 (Liu) – Cal Grant Maximum Awards at Independent Institutions – Mr. Gollihur indicated that legislative staff was preparing amendments that would modify the changes which excluded schools with less than four-year programs from the funding formula and would provide for submission of student data to CPEC. He noted that the amendments needed to be made within the current funding cap for the bill.

AB 700 (Horton) – Cal Grant Eligibility for Non-Traditional Students – Mr. Gollihur indicated that the sponsors of the bill anticipated substantial amendments that would implement the proposed changes to Cal Grant eligibility as a demonstration program. He indicated that the California State Student Association was seeking the continued support of the Commission for the amended legislation.

SB 652 (Scott) – UC-CCC Transfer – Mr. Gollihur informed the Commission that there was no new information regarding this bill.

AB 473 (Liu) – Community College Fees – Mr. Gollihur reported that the bill's sponsor had convened a task force to consider options for setting and adjusting fees at community colleges. He also indicated that the Community College League of California would be sponsoring an initiative for the November 2006 ballot that would provide a mechanism for setting fees from a base lower than the current fees.

Mr. Gollihur stated that staff would provide the Commission with a review of the Commission's policies and positions with regard to student fees at the next Commission meeting.

AB 1072 (Liu) – CPEC Organization and Responsibilities – Mr. Gollihur indicated that he expected the author's office to draft amendments for his review and indicated that the language would focus on more clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of CPEC without changes to its governance structure.

Mr. Gollihur discussed the Federal Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, noting that it has been subject to considerable delays and was now tied to the federal budget reconciliation process. He provided an example of how the proposed changes could negatively impact California students and institutions.

Commissioner Perez recommended that the Commission send a letter of opposition to the California Congressional Delegation with very specific language as to the negative impact the proposed reauthorization bill would have on California students. The Commission passed a motion to this effect.

A CONTEXTUAL EXAMINATION OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN CALIFORNIA

Staff members Karen Humphrey and Ryan Clark presented the final draft of the first brief in a series of papers examining the nexus between postsecondary education and the workforce. This report focused on the historical overview and context of workforce development and education in California. Mr. Clark reported on the work of the Technical Advisory Committee in framing the research question, noting that it is the only body working on this issue that has representation and collaboration from both higher education and state workforce agencies.

Mr. Clark also discussed plans for the second and third briefs. He noted that the second brief would address the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the workforce and higher education. The third brief would look at the demand and projections of California's current and future workforce including demographic, economic, industry, and skills trends and projections.

Paul Gussman, Deputy Director of the California Workforce Investment Board, addressed the Commission about the importance of this work and how the workforce investment system in California is poised to play a bigger role in better understanding the nexus of higher education and workforce development. The Commission discussed the content of the brief and indicated support for the continuation of the process.

PRESENTATION BY ALAN D. BERSIN, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

Chair Welinsky introduced Education Secretary Alan D. Bersin and welcomed him to the Commission meeting to discuss his perspective on higher education issues facing California. He also introduced Deputy Secretary, Scott Himmelstein. Mr. Bersin began his presentation by stating the need for policymakers to move beyond divisive issues and work in a bipartisan manner. He discussed a number of education issues, including:

- (a) The significant progress made at the K-4 level as a result of the reforms over the past decade;
- (b) The need to focus on the middle and high school levels;
- (c) The critical importance of higher education's involvement in finding solutions for the challenges at the high school level;

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- (d) The necessity for multiple pathways and a better identification of how college preparation curricula (a–g requirements) should be defined, particularly as it relates to the need for career technical education. He added his concern that the public systems of education often foster a tracking system that disadvantages students from low socio-economic levels and certain ethnic backgrounds;
- (e) The importance of student engagement, relevance to reality, and project based learning as components of strong instructional strategies;
- (f) The importance of supporting community colleges;
- (g) The necessity of the State having a clear and coherent accountability system for higher education; and
- (h) The role that CPEC can and should play in collecting and analyzing data upon which decisions can be made based on outcomes.

He concluded his remarks by calling on the Commission to continue to provide the necessary data for decision making and committed his support of the agency as it strives to foster more accountability in higher education.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN STATE OVERSIGHT OF PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Staff member Marge Chisholm reported on the history and evolution of California’s private postsecondary and vocational education sector. She discussed the creation of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education and the Commission’s involvement in this sector over the last three decades.

Ms. Chisholm summarized recommendations from a 2005 report conducted by an independent consultant about the Bureau’s operations. She noted that the report contained 77 recommendations for improving the oversight of private postsecondary and vocational education. She noted that major problems lie in the structural framework of the law, funding mechanisms, approval requirements and processes, fiscal management of the bureau, and enforcement. She recommended that because of the importance of the issue and the Commission’s long involvement with this issue, it should play an active role in future discussions that will lead to substantive changes in the law. The Commission voted to authorize staff to take an active role in legislative discussions on the licensing at private postsecondary and vocational institutions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Welinsky adjourned the Commission meeting to Executive Session at 11:30 a.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Welinsky reconvened the meeting. There being no further business, the Commission meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

